



# MONTEREY NEWS

OCTOBER 1997  
VOLUME XXVII · Number 10



## THE TOWN

**Health Board Concerned About Water Quality.** The Board of Health is concerned regarding the quality and safety of drinking water in the more densely populated areas of Monterey. Lake Garfield is an example of a densely populated area where many septic systems are old and predate the Title Five state environmental code. Latest revisions to Title

Five require approval of the use of innovative and alternative technologies to repair and upgrade existing septic systems. A statement of local conditions in the Water Resource Protection Regulations, written by the Board of Health this past summer, describes all properties in Monterey as having on-site septic systems for the disposal of sewage and sanitary waste. A septic system includes a soil absorption system, called a leaching field. If the leaching field is not up to code it can result in contamination of drinking water by drainage from the septic system. Most Monterey properties are served by on-site privately drilled water wells. It is documented in the Soil Survey of Berkshire County that much of the soils of heavily developed areas and adjacent watersheds are classified as well drained to excessively well drained soils. Thus waste from the septic system can more easily encroach on the water source. The Water Resource Protection Regula-



*Mount Everett players Weston Happ (number ten) and Josh Brooks (number 24) take control against Taconic.*

tions addressed this condition: "Clearly these factors demonstrate a serious or poorly treated sewage effluent, such as pathogenic organisms, nitrogen and phosphates."

Aware of these circumstances, the Board met with its clerk Gige O'Connell on August 25, to discuss a DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) grant application for funding under the Open Space Bond Bill / Community Septic Management Program for the purpose of repairing or replacing failing systems.

**Special Town Meeting Addresses Septic Systems.** The Board of Health's concern about the safety of local drinking water was addressed when the September fifth Special Town Meeting voted to borrow a sum not to exceed \$200,000 from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust. These funds are provided through a "State Revolving Fund", which is administered by the DEP. This money is exclusively for granting loans

to property owners for the repair or replacement of failing septic systems. Though the originator of the loans will be the Commonwealth, the money will come to the town through the Board of Health. The Health Board will then administer the loans to individuals who qualify. Any household with an income of less than \$150,000 per year and with a failing system is eligible to

apply. The Board will be accepting applications in the near future.

During the Special Town Meeting Select Board member Peter Brown clarified the question of whether the Town will be liable for defaulting loans, explaining that if a loan defaults, the Town is authorized to put a lien on the individual's property. Loans repaid within the twenty-year time limit will free monies to make additional loans. The Town will have twenty years to repay the loan to the Commonwealth and two years to commence payment after the loan is made. Also because the Town administers the loan, Monterey will receive the 5% interest while the Commonwealth receives 0%.

In addition to the \$200,000 which will be available, the Commonwealth will give the Town \$15,000 to set up the administrative structure (computer program, materials, consulting help if needed). Board of Health member Fred



Chapman told the Monterey News that they will be setting up a Geographic Information System (GIS) database to obtain and process information regarding local areas most urgently in need of natural resource protection.

**Cellular Tower Moratorium.** Also voted on at the Special Town Meeting was a thirty to two vote in favor of a six-month moratorium on the building of wireless communication towers in the Town. Planning Board member Maggie Leonard explained that the Town needs time to look at the details to determine the most appropriate locations. According to federal law a community cannot prevent the installation of cellular towers, but siting issues can be influenced locally. One person in the audience spoke in favor of the towers by relating an incident where friends who were coming to visit got lost on a back road in Monterey and were stranded in a snow storm. They were unable to use their cell phone due to the lack of communications towers.

**Tax Rate Hearing.** On September 8 a tax rate hearing was held with Assistant Assessor Harry Gustafson and the Select Board for the purpose of obtaining public input as to the tax levy to be borne by each class of property. Gustafson recommended that the rate remain the same for all classes (residential, commercial, industrial, open-space, and personal property classes). The Board unanimously agreed. Gustafson said that 94.5509% of Monterey's evaluation is classified as residential or open-space while 5.4491% is classified in the other categories. The tax rate for Fiscal Year 1998 will remain unchanged at \$8.72 per thousand.

**Southern Berkshire District Faces Financial Woes.** On September 15, reacting to the news that the Southern Berkshire Regional School District is facing a shortfall of \$600,000 the Select Board voiced indignation that once again the district has mismanaged funds. Not long ago the district had to work out with the

IRS how to make good on delinquent Medicare payments, attributed to clerical error. "Now this! Where are the safeguards? What's missing to cause persistent errors?" [A few days later, it was revealed at a school committee meeting that the district is short an additional \$299,000. This brings the total deficit to \$899,000. — Ed.]

**Miscellany.** The Select Board received admonishment August 15 from the Department of Psychology at Smith College because they have not responded to a survey regarding the frequency and nature of problems that are caused by compulsive hoarding. Input to the Board would be welcome.

On August 25 the Select Board discussed what measures to take to collect dump fees from those who have not paid Rogers Trucking and those who have not renewed dump stickers for the period of 7/1/97 through 7/1/98. These households have been identified and will be hearing from the Board shortly.

— Jane Black

## NOTICE

The Town Hall will be closed Monday, October 13, in observance of Columbus Day.

## SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE REPORT

**Bulky Waste Days** will be held on October 8th, 11th, and 12th during regular Transfer Station hours. This is another chance to clean out the old junk from the garage, the attic, the basement, and other nooks and crannies.

**Items accepted in bulky waste container:** furniture, mattresses, rugs, televisions, household items such as vacuum cleaners, toasters, window frames, screens, old doors, small bits and pieces left over from do-it-yourself household projects, etc.

**Items not accepted in bulky waste container:** demolition debris, recyclable metals and white goods, (refrigerators, ranges, washing machines, dryers, etc.) Put these items into or next to the metals container, which is available year round at Transfer Station. Also prohibited are toxic materials (pesticides, chemicals, paint, etc.) Save toxic items for the **Hazardous Waste Collection Day** which will be either November 1st or November 8th. We'll keep you posted.

— Joyce Scheffey



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## PLANNING BOARD NEWS

### EOEA Grant for Town Master Plan.

The Monterey Planning Board along with Tom Levin, Chairman of the New Marlborough Planning Board met with Nat Karns, Executive Director of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and Tom Matusko, Principal Planner of BRPC, to discuss the upcoming available grant money to prepare town master plans.

Lee and Lenox have already applied and are slated to receive and \$80,000 grant from the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) to prepare a joint master plan — also referred to as a growth management plan. The Lee/Lenox application got top honors. We offer them (and the BRPC who prepared the application) our congratulations.

The purpose of a master plan is to map out where we want to go, and to provide a yardstick by which to evaluate the range of options open to us. A good master plan will serve as a planning reference for citizens and town officials as they make administrative decisions.

These EOEA grants are only available to two or more cooperating towns. It is part of the ongoing effort of the EOEA to encourage regionalism by uniting neighboring towns and asking them to cooperate in planning their futures. The grant application has to be in late October or early November.

What will a master plan do? It will place our community in a position to respond to a variety of challenges by providing for the needs of its citizens. It will ascertain which resources are most important to preserve and why, and what kinds of uses and scales of development would be compatible with those resources. It will ascertain where development can be encouraged and where it should be discouraged. Maintaining the status quo is not an option. The challenge is to plan for and shape the inevitable changes to come.

Do our bylaws adequately reflect what this town wants for its future? Do we want to adopt zoning regulations which will permit clustering of buildings? Should some commercial development be encouraged — if so where? Are we meeting the needs of our senior citizens, especially those with moderate incomes? Should we consider the

transfer of development rights? This would enable those with open space or wetland acreage to sell their development rights to another entity, enabling that entity to develop in a more appropriate area. Some towns have done this and others are working toward similar solutions. A master plan is basically a road map to the future. After all, if we don't know where we are going how can we get there?

To be counted as eligible, the EOEA requires that there be enthusiastic community support behind the master plan idea. This means that we need to involve every citizen, through surveys and public meetings. We need to meet with every town board and committee to hear their concerns and to enlist their help. Likewise, we need to meet with the lake associations, summer residents, neighboring communities, the Historical Society, Gould Farm, the Land Trust, the Fire Company, as well as commercial and residential real estate developers. Letters of support from these and other organizations will be paramount in attaining our grant. To get things started the Planning Board is scheduled to meet with the Conservation Commission and the Select Board on Monday, September 22.

Who will do the work? It will be up to us to provide the BRPC with the information collected from the aforementioned meetings. Extensive GIS (Geographic Information Survey) mapping is a prerequisite, some of which has already been done. The mapping, preparation of the master plan, general guidance, and hands-on support (should our application pass) would be taken on by the BRPC. The rest is up to us.

— Joyce Scheffey  
Planning Board

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## DEMOCRATS TO MEET

The Monterey Democratic Town Committee will hold a meeting of all members Friday, October 17, at the Monterey Firehouse at 7:30 p.m. All members are asked to attend to discuss several issues including, a candidate for the next Select Board election, money-raising for local needs, possible gubernatorial candidates, and to address a legislative letter writing campaign.

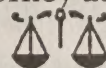
— Jane Black

## GRANT DEADLINE

The deadline for 1997-98 Cultural Council grants is Wednesday October 15. The Council administers state money for projects in the arts, humanities, and sciences which will benefit the Monterey community. Applications may be obtained at the Monterey Town Hall, and mailed to the Council at P.O. Box 457, Monterey, 01245. Questions? Call me at 528-4367.

— Christine Goldfinger  
Monterey Cultural Council

### CHARLES J. FERRIS Attorney at Law



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DEBORAH MIELKE

*New Marlborough Central School's new sign thanks to the PTA's penny drive.*

## NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL AND MONTEREY SCHOOL

The 1997-98 school year began August 27. At New Marlborough Central School there are ninety five students enrolled in six classrooms, pre-kindergarten through fourth grade. This year Monterey School is a full kindergarten. NMC has adopted a multi-age classroom system. The classroom combinations are, pre-kindergarten and kindergarten, kindergarten and first grade, first and second grade, second and third grade, and third and fourth grade. John Peron, elementary principal, stated in a letter to parents that in adopting the multi-

age philosophy NMC would be "providing a more natural learning environment for children using developmentally appropriate practices." The educators at NMC are eager to put these practices to work.

There are, in addition to new class arrangements, several new staff at NMC. New aides in the classroom are Yvette Hitchcock in kindergarten and first grade, Laurie Briggs in third and fourth grade, and Jessica Joseph in second and third grade. Jessica is also group leader for the after school program. Anna Duryea, in addition to her after school program duties, is a lunchroom and playground monitor. Anne Igoe Dinan has taken over the duties of cook and cafeteria manager.

Mondays always begin with an all-school assembly at NMC. The week's birthdays are acknowledged and information, songs, and talents are presented. The Shared Discovery program will begin soon. First on the agenda is the circus, followed by rainforests, Peru, and a surprise.

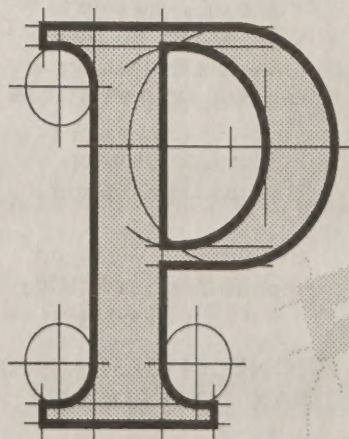
Both Butternut Basin and Catamount are offering ski programs to Southern Berkshire Regional School District students again this year. Information packages have already been sent home.

The staff at NMC sends a thank you to all who participated in the collection of Campbells Soup labels and General Mills box tops. Several thousand labels were traded in for a microscope, books, videos, and teacher resource materials. The box tops were converted to dollars, which were spent on whistles for the playground supervisors. The collection of both items continues—keep them coming!

PTA News. Officers for the coming year are Robert Miller, president, Melissa Mischon, vice president, Elaine Bertoli secretary, and Maryellen Grego, treasurer. The first fund-raiser of the year, a gift wrap paper sale, is underway and will wrap up on September 29. Please support these efforts. The money raised goes back to our children in the numerous enrichment activities that are partially or solely sponsored by the PTA.

October 1, at 7 p.m., is the first School Council meeting of the year. It will be held at NMC. Dr. William Cooper, superintendent, and John Peron, elementary principal, will be the speakers.

— Deborah Mielke



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## MEET THE SUPER

On the first day of July Dr. William Cooper assumed the position of superintendent of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District. Cooper comes to Southern Berkshire after serving as superintendent of the Windsor Southwest Supervisory Union School District in Chester, Vermont. He replaces Tom Consolati who was the district superintendent for the past twenty years.

Although currently very busy dealing with the school budget deficit, Cooper stated that he is committed to open lines of communication between the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD) and the five towns that make up the district. During a recent telephone interview, I asked Dr. Cooper if he had known of the school district's financial troubles when he accepted his post as superintendent. Cooper responded that he had not known until recently of the almost one million dollar budget deficit, but he is now working hard to rectify the situation. Cooper noted that the shortfall was primarily a result of a combination of over-spending the budget and exaggerated income projections. When asked what impact the financial crisis would have on school programs, Cooper said that he meeting that day (September 23) with the principals from the district schools to discuss where cuts could be made. Not mincing words, Cooper stated that "It is very likely that these cuts will have an impact on our programs. We will have to curtail some of our services. This can mean anything from not buying new supplies or equipment to laying off personnel. Most of the school district's spending is on salaries, so it is logical to think about making cuts there." Dr. Cooper also stated that while he had experience with school budgets that were tough to pass, he has never been presented with a debt of this magnitude.

Many area children attend the Monterey Kindergarten and the New Marlboro Central School, and I asked Dr. Cooper about his commitment to preserving these small local schools. Cooper answered that since the subject was relatively new to him, he had not given it much thought. He went on to say that

with the recent budget constrictions, "The district needs to look at what makes the most financial sense." Cooper indicated that closing local schools may have to be considered as a cost-cutting measure.

Regarding the school choice numbers at the high school, Dr. Cooper was steadfast in his support of Mount Everett. He conceded that the school choice figures do not favor the school, but he was quick to point out that numbers are not necessarily a fair method of assessment. "The problem with numbers is that they don't tell the whole story. What

about kids who leave the district to play football, which we don't offer here? I'm sure that there is room for improvement in all of our programs, but it seems unfair to judge a school strictly based on school choice numbers."

Dr. Cooper expressed his hope that the community will stand behind the SBRSD, "I hope that the people of southern Berkshire will come together in the budget crisis and have confidence in our ability to deal with this. Our schools can be a source of pride for the community, not just problems. It's important to have support from the community and to have people make a real effort to understand the nature of the current economic problem." After support, Cooper cited a willingness for people to be active in the school's initiative as part of his vision for the district, "Obviously, we are a resource for school children aged five to eighteen, but we are also a resource for the entire community."

— Maggie Leonard



©MAGGIE LEONARD

*Katie Vallianos gives it the boot during soccer practice at Mount Everett High School.*

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## FIREMAN'S BLOTTER

This is the first in a series of articles about the Monterey Fire Department, describing who we are and what we do. Formed in the 1930's, the Monterey Fire Department responds to both fire and medical emergencies. To date, it consists of twenty two volunteers, who meet every Wednesday night for two to three hours of training. All of the volunteers are state certified Emergency First Responders (three are Emergency Medical Technicians). Becoming a First Responder requires twelve hours of medical training on an annual basis (110 to become an EMT); Monterey does twenty four hours annually, two hours each month. As First Responders, we are trained in all aspects of patient stabilization. This includes performing CPR, treating burns and open and closed wounds, blunt trauma and back-boarding, extrication, allergic reactions, and preparing the patient for transport to a hospital.

During July and August, we updated and purchased new medical equipment. At present our medical truck carries the most up-to-date equipment available, including two computerized heart defibrillators. This enables us to handle virtually all medical emergencies. A defibrillator is used to treat certain aspects of a heart attack, and must be performed within six minutes to be most effective. With the nearest ambulance

more than twenty minutes away, our response is important to stabilize the patient as quickly as possible. The first ten minutes of an emergency situation has long been recognized as the most critical period of time in emergency medical intervention. Our response is fast because many of the members of the Monterey Fire Department work right in town. We have also used the Life Star medical helicopter (seventeen minutes away, Hartford Medical Center), and the Med Flite medical Helicopter (fifteen minutes away, Albany Medical Center), to treat and transport patients requiring care at a level one trauma center. During the month of August, we responded to seven medical emergencies including one major motor vehicle accident requiring the "Jaws of Life" to extricate a trapped victim.

Some of the subjects for future articles include our fire fighting equipment and training, the circumstances and operation of mutual aid, water and ice rescue, how to get involved in the Fire Department's activities, how we are supported, our annual Steak Roast (and perhaps a Fireman's Ball), and other subjects. In the meantime, we at the Monterey Fire Department would like to express our sincerest appreciation for the continuing support and commitment to excellence that the Monterey community provides.

— Del Martin

## The Roadside Store & Cafe

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-- Matthew Brewer, a Roadside regular

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## MEETING HOUSE RAFFLE

### A Winner!

The Meeting House Campaign sponsored a Labor Day weekend raffle for a framed townscape of the village. The print, donated by artist Leonard Weber of the Hayloft Gallery, features the Meeting House at the center of the composition. Judy Friedman, Kathy Page Wasiuk, Wayne Dunlop, George Norian and Steve Snyder sold tickets non-stop in front of the General Store on Saturday, Sunday, and Labor Day. The drawing was held on Monday, September 1, at noon on the Meeting House steps. Chrissy Vallianos (age ten), aided by friend Dierdre Higgins (age fourteen), pulled the winning ticket out. The winner, Joyce Genovesi of Route 23, was immediately notified, and came down to collect both print and congratulations. "It's a good cause" she said, "and if everyone helps out, then we'll make it!"

Many thanks to everyone who bought a ticket or six; five hundred and eighty three tickets were sold. Better odds than the lottery! The raffle raised \$1,011., which brings the total monies raised to \$125,000. Another step toward the goal of \$209,000. needed to restore the building at the town's center.

— Kathy Wasiuk

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George Norian holds the jar at the Meeting House raffle, while Chrissy Vallianos and Dierdre Higgins read the winning ticket.

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## SHREEFTER NAMED TO LITERACY POSITION

The Southern Berkshire Literacy Network has announced the appointment of Karen Shreefter as education coordinator, a position created due to the retirement of former educational director Anne Lostrangio. Shreefter brings to the post her past experience as a reading instructor for adults and adolescents in Berkshire County, and her years of teaching educationally disadvantaged children in the north end of London. She also has had training and experience in the field of communications. The position is effective immediately.

— MaryKate Jordan

## MONTEREY A LOCAL HISTORY

Two hundred pages of history, photos, documents, and first-person accounts  
Edited by Peter Murkett with Ian Jenkins and Kim Hines

*Went fishing. Had a mess of roasted fish. Worked hard at haying. Use my spare time in reading, sleeping, and going to the City. I love that place.*

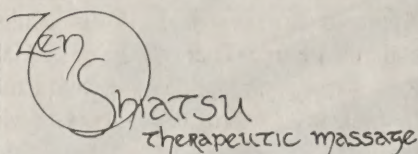
— Page 53 (words recorded by Elihu Harmon of Monterey, age 21, in 1871)

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## BOOK REVIEW

### HEALTH AND ILLNESS:

#### A Cross-Cultural Encyclopedia

Co-authored by David Levinson and  
Laura Gaccione

ABC-CLIO Santa Barbara CA 1997

252 pages including bibliography

Health and Illness is a volume in the series "Encyclopedia of World Culture", for which David Levinson is senior editor, and professional journalist and former *News* editor Laura Gaccione is co-author. This book covers a wide cultural variety of healing methods, with sections on topics ranging from acupuncture to yoga. There was an interesting choice made of areas of cross-cultural concern as well, from death to wife-beating.

Unlike many other references, the articles in Health and Illness speak with equal respect about three varieties of

healing experience: biomedicine (standard western medical practices), alternative and complementary practices, and the indigenous, folk methods the editor refers to as "traditional" healing. It is perhaps because there is such a clear understanding on the part of the authors that these healing styles each have a rightful place, that this balance is so well and thoroughly maintained. In addition, the book is both informative and entertaining.

The articles are written in a clear, direct manner and are usually about three pages long. The reference area I know best (astrological healing) was deftly handled, and the area I usually find most confusing (Ayurvedic medicine) was easier to read than other material I've looked through. Someone with no experience of alternative or complementary healing would be able to turn to Health and Illness, read the section on the topic of interest, and have a sufficient basic understanding to be able to ask the next questions knowledgeably.

The section on reflexology was weakened, I thought, by the lack of a foot chart showing reference points as a complement to the verbal chart in the same section. At the same time, after twenty years of involvement in various aspects of complementary healing, I left the book with tidbits I had never known before.

Which Health and Illness tidbit was my favorite? I found it rather delightful that the origins of chiropractic practice can be traced back to Daniel David Palmer's experience of the healing of a person's deafness by means of spinal adjustment. But the references to "culture bound syndrome" caught my eye, too. And the articles on faith healing, environmental disasters, and those people, usually women, categorized as "informal healers." For anyone interested in health and the varieties of human experience, Health and Illness is a provocative read. The book will be available from the Monterey Library this winter. Check it out.

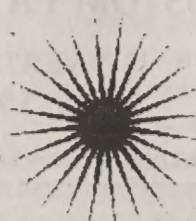
— MaryKate Jordan

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# THE FAMILY NETWORK

## Programs and Calendar

The Family Center is located at 940 South Main Street, Great Barrington; call 528-0721 for more information. All activities are at the Family Center, unless otherwise noted.

The Play and Learn program, a playgroup for three and four year olds, began on September 22. Kathleen Davis is the teacher of the program, which requires registration. Play and Learn meets each Monday and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon.

WIC News. South Berkshire WIC began office hours in Lee on September 10. They continue to have office hours on Thursdays at the Otis Town Hall. Please call the Great Barrington office, 528-0457, in order to make appointments and for more information. Outreach worker Cheryl Thompson will be visiting the parent-child playgroups to give a cooking demonstration and share recipes. Check with your playgroup leader to see when she is scheduled to visit your playgroup. Her visits will begin on September 29.

Because we believe that parents are the child's first and most important teachers, we plan activities to promote the special relationship between parent and child. For this reason we ask that parents and caregivers observe the following responsibilities for all activities sponsored by the Family Network: be responsible for your own child/children; assist your child in appropriate behavior; be attentive to your child's whereabouts; be attentive to the snack schedule; clean up after your child; be responsible for keeping ill children at home from playgroups and other activities; assist playgroup leader and your child with end of playgroup and activity cleanup.

We have had some wonderful additions to the lending library: a book, The Wonder of Boys by Michael Gurian, and two videos *Baby To Be - For Expectant Parents* and *Usted Va Ser Mama - Spanish Baby Talk, For New Parents*. A special thank you is sent to volunteer Bernice Norman, who has spent countless hours listing and arranging the books and videos in our lending library.

Here is our calendar.

**October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.** Parent-child playgroup, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Drop-in time 10 a.m.-noon; Volunteer training, 1-3 p.m.

**October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.** Parent-child playgroup, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Drop-in time 10 a.m.-noon.

**October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31.** Play and Learn group, registration required, 9 a.m.-noon. Drop-in time 10 a.m.-noon.

**October 6, 20, 27.** Play and Learn group, registration required 9 a.m.-noon; Drop-in time 10 a.m.-noon.

**October 7, 14, 21, 28.** Baby and me exercise, registration required, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Drop-in time 3-5 p.m.

**October 1.** Breastfeeding support group, Center for Pediatric and Adolescent Health Care, Fairview Hospital, fourth floor, 9:30 a.m. Call 413-528-8580 for more information.

**October 1.** Second part of Effective Discipline workshop with Bob Boylston, 6:30 p.m. Childcare available with prior notice.

**October 6.** Apple picking at Windy Hill Farm, Route 7, Great Barrington. 10 a.m. Wear boots. Bring a picnic. Cider will be provided.

**October 8.** Moms Group, Barrington OBGYN, West Ave. 4 p.m. Call 413-528-1470 for information and to register.

**October 11.** Fifth annual Hands At Work

Craft Show, Searles Castle, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission to show is \$2.00 for adults, children are free. Tour of Castle is \$3.00. Refreshments are available and child activity area will be provided. Proceeds will benefit the emergency childcare fund at the Family Network.

**October 11.** Story time at the Sandisfield Community Center, led by Kathleen Bracken, 10 a.m. Sponsored by Funds From The Arts Council in Sandisfield and the Family Network.

**October 13.** Holiday. Father's Group will meet at 6:30 p.m.

**October 17.** Pumpkin Day at Gould Farm, 10 a.m. Meet at McKee School. There will be a story, crafts, and activities.

**October 18.** Tips for cutting children's hair, 10 a.m. Presenter to be announced.

**October 22.** Moms Group, Barrington OBGYN, West Ave. 11 a.m. Call 413-528-1470 for information and to register.

**October 22.** Quick, low-cost nutritious food for the family, Susan Antil, WIC nutritionist, 6:30 p.m. Samples available.

**October 24.** Spanish speaking story time led by Ana Vreeland, 5 p.m. story, craft, and snack.

**October 27.** Father's Group will meet, 6:30 p.m.

**October 29.** What to expect from a newborn, 6:30 p.m. Presentations by staff of Children's Health Program, Inc. Question and answer time included.



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## COUNCIL ON AGING

The free annual flu clinic, administered by the Berkshire Visiting Nurse Association, will be held on Tuesday, October 21, between 9 and 11 a.m., in the basement of the Town Hall. The regular monthly blood pressure clinic is cancelled for October and will resume in November.

Facts on the flu. Flu, short for influenza, is a very contagious infection of the body's respiratory system, and usually occurs during the winter months. The symptoms generally appear one to three days after a person inhales the virus. The flu can be dangerous. Most people are sick for only a few days, however, flu can be serious for the elderly, and for people with chronic medical problems or weakened immune system. The flu can be prevented with a yearly vaccination. Flu viruses change so often that last year's vaccine will not protect you this year. If you want to protect yourself from the flu, you must get a flu shot every year.

Seniors are requested to bring their Medicare card.

— Pauline Nault

## TIME CAPSULE

Monterey's Sesquicentennial celebration is winding down, after a summer of great joy and pride. We now turn to the question of how to preserve the memories of this 150th year. The Select Board and the Anniversary Celebration committee have opted for a time capsule. The time capsule will be buried in a significant place and resurrected fifty or one hundred years in the future.

The year of 1997 was like a microcosm of all that life is in Monterey. There were major snow storms, a marvelous Memorial Day Parade, the July tornado emergency, the dedication of the Veteran's Memorial, and the Sesquicentennial Anniversary weekend. And what a weekend it was! The picnic, the bands, the dancing, the singing, the art, the historical exhibits, the games, the souvenirs, and, above all, the volunteers; it all needs to be preserved. The memory of these activities, plus a sense of the place that Monterey is, needs to be saved for future generations—thus the time capsule.

Research is underway to find the best way to preserve the articles, photographs, and other memorabilia. The Anniversary committee and the Select Board have designated Gige O'Connell as coordinator of the Time Capsule project. Those of you who have photographs and materials that you think should be included, please contact O'Connell at 528-1564. We have already received some photographs and celebration items for which we say thanks.

— Gige O'Connell

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## THE BIDWELL HOUSE

Many folks, especially those with school age children, consider the end of August to be the end of the summer season. And so it is in areas like the Berkshires which so many people visit for their summer holidays.

For The Bidwell House, August ended in a flurry with the Heirloom Tomato Tasting on August 29. Over seventy people trekked up Art School Road to sample seventeen different varieties of old-time tomatoes. Visitors delighted over the beauty of these fruits on display. The heirloom tomatoes were lined up on white plates so their various shapes and colors were featured. The earliest variety was "Green Gage" which dates to 1800, but the one that got the most votes was the small but very flavorful "Trucker's Favorite," which goes back to about 1920. The Tomato Tasting was a cooperative program with the Eastern Native Seed Conservancy, and was funded by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

This month's museum event is the Annual Royal Hemlock Walk slated for Sunday, October 12. The hike along the remains of this eighteenth-century road begins at noon at The Bidwell House. The half-way point is the Shaker Pond in Tyringham where a welcome lunch break is enjoyed, then its up hill back to the museum. Please note, this walk takes



*Roger and Del Tryon snap one for posterity during the Pan-Mass Challenge.*

a full four hours. Bring your own lunch and water, and please wear appropriate clothing for hiking. The Royal Hemlock road hike is free, however donations are always gratefully accepted. This hike is a wonderful way to enjoy the fall foliage. For more information please call 528-6888.

Tours at The Bidwell House will close for the season on October 15. A visit to the house on the Columbus Day holiday weekend (October 11, 12, & 13) is a great way to entertain your weekend guests.

— Anita Carroll-Weldon

## TRYON RIDES IN PAN-MASS CHALLENGE

Roger Tryon and his brother Del raised over \$2500 in the Pan-Mass Challenge bike ride, to benefit the Jimmy Fund. The money raised will go toward cancer treatment and research at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. There were over 2000 riders in the two-day, two hundred mile event. The Tryon brothers rode from Sturbridge to Provincetown, Massachusetts. Roger Tryon sends thanks to all who sponsored them, and he is available to anyone who would like information about riding in the event next year. Contact Roger at 529-4091.

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*it comes down swift and granite  
through an open sky's crystal blues  
and sharply glancing suns  
like a thorn piercing a warm heart  
to this shielded sheltered city  
from the goldenrodded swales  
north where the white hooded killer  
comes swooping down the calm  
cold clearest starry night  
how can you ever be ready  
for this: blunt and merciless  
when your hands are dug in soil?  
this is a night of sadness  
we drink and toast to death  
to change and impermanence  
to the ending of a season  
of flourish, fame, and frolic  
hammock's ease and the lazy life  
we play tapes of old jams  
on the jaw bones and sinews  
of Princess or Porcupine  
picked clean by blackbirds  
and parasitic flies  
end of summer's road kill  
while the great heart of Theresa  
giving no more to India  
submits and sets sail for Jupiter  
wish we could sing and twirl around  
Nusrat's grave like we did his voice  
but sorrow sings our souls instead  
confronting diagnoses we  
answer philosophically  
we're heading back to the Green  
it's always when the garden's blooming  
it's always when the kids are young  
it's always when we want some more  
what is death but mere transition  
changing rooms and changing playmates  
giving back the ultimate gift  
yet we know it's always coming  
the morning of the frozen dew  
the morning of the dark descent*

*it's been years he jumped the window  
and there's always tears for Christmas  
his plan caught us by surprise  
tomorrow's view of blackened heads  
the stench of decomposing  
we'll avoid our rotting flesh  
pick them quick, zinnias and basil!  
play me all your favorite poems  
breathing deeper than ere before  
play Missa Solemnis, Sir George  
as you rise above the living  
some blues to fuel this funeral*

— R. Zukowski

In memorium: Princess Diana, Mother Theresa, Sir George Solti, Nusrat Fatah Ali Kahn, R.W., the gardens of 1997, and the porcupine.



©MAGGIE LEONARD



## DARKNESS

*Aniconic world*

*not a footstep*

*nor a breath*

*ebb-light, ebb-life*

*to little death*

*no images*

*in waters' night*

*no tracks*

*to morning's flight*

*no stars*

*to finger sight*

*no sound*

*no dew*

*and in my waking*

*no you.*

— A.O. Howell, 1972

## BONFIRE

*I stare at the flames,*

*I hear the laughter,*

*The voices of my children.*

*Open like the fire*

*Every wish a torch*

*Warm and certain,*

*They carry for each other*

*As I watch*

*The burning logs settle*

*Collapse suddenly to the core*

*A host spirals upward*

*Quick sparks scattering*

*Like bright, brief chaff*

*Tossed in the dark*

*Never falling,*

*Only fading, fading*

*Thrust higher on the heat*

*From tongues*

*Rooted in the crumbling coals*

*In just this way*

*Dreams whirl and tumble*

*Round the bud of flame*

*Carried on brave voices*

*Flung from smooth, young hearts*

*Shining shards of hope*

*Impulsive promises*

*Wonderful in flight*

*Never falling*

*Only fading, fading*

*Swallowed in the night*

*Impassive, patient*

*Gathered at the rim*

*Of this halo*

— Nick Hardcastle



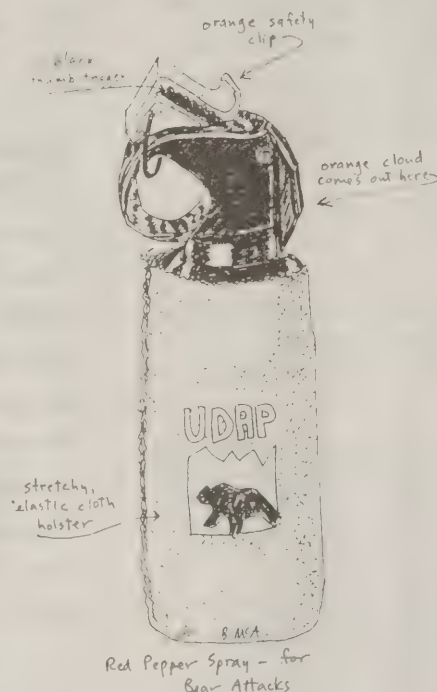
## LOADED FOR BEAR IN YELLOWSTONE

My first visit to Yellowstone park was in 1957. Back then bears of various colors were common campground visitors and I have several photographs of bears I took myself with my Brownie camera. These are black and white shots, with little scalloped edges. You can see a lot of trees, maybe a picnic table, and in the distance a dark rounded object. This is the rear end of a bear, whose front end is underground in the garbage pit. These supposedly bear-proof garbage pits had heavy round lids, at ground level, with a thumb-like projection you could step on and cause the lid to lift up on a hinge. I'm sure they worked for awhile, when they were first introduced, but by the time we got to Yellowstone in 1957, the bears had them all figured out. Many times we'd watch a bear saunter over to a lid, put her foot carefully on the foot pedal, raise the lid, and dive in head first up to her waist. Most of my photos are of this pose, but I did get one or two of the bear coming up to look around—those are the exciting ones, the ones where the bear might have seen me.

This time around no bear has seen me, nor vice versa. The garbage cans in Yellowstone are above ground again, but they are now of the library book-drop design and you know once you drop your book or video in one of these, no vandal, bear or human, will get them out again without a key.

But it is not the new design which has caused the bears to vanish from the campsites of Yellowstone. It is a huge concentrated effort at park garbage management and visitor education, as well as occasional bear relocation, which has brought about the change. Back in the fifties people fed bears from their picnic hampers, handed them candy bars from car windows, even smeared jam on the faces of their children to get the photo of the big teddy bear licking their cheeks. Bears were large, soft, familiar—even somehow humorous. Not anymore.

Nowadays you can't even tell your friends you are going to Yellowstone without experiencing a barrage of horror stories of bear attacks. If you are brave (or foolhardy) enough to carry on with your trip plans, despite the nightmares you've been having thanks to these accounts, you will



Red Pepper Spray - for  
Bear Attacks

get to Yellowstone at last only to have all your bear buttons pushed again and again. Every picnic table has bear precautions stapled to it. It is illegal to disregard these regulations about food storage, and of course they contain wise advice. In the park bookstores you'll find many shelves devoted to bears, both grizzly bears and black bears, and the bottom line in them is always the same: bears are here, they are dangerous, no matter what you do you may well be mauled or killed by a bear but here are a lot of good ideas which might save your life. The first and best idea is to avoid bears.

Our friends in Bozeman, Montana, sometimes have provided us with some good grizzly stories just as we were about to enter Yellowstone. My personal favorite was the one about the guy sitting on the guardrail beside the highway, smoking a cigarette, when a truck came around the corner, screeched to a halt, and the driver got out with his rifle and shot the guy. When he came running over and the poor guy was lying wounded on the ground, the shooter

said, "Oh, my god! What have I done—I thought you were a bear!" This is supposedly a true story.

This year our stop in Bozeman produced the news that there is now a red pepper spray you can buy and take with you for warding off charging bears. We were strongly advised to get some, so I went into a sporting goods store and talked to the clerk.

"There are three or four kinds, but as far as I can tell, they are all the same. This one is marketed by a local guy—here's his picture—and comes with a handy holster. This other one, you have to buy the holster separately for six bucks."

Holster! I haven't holstered anything more menacing than my Felco pruners since my cowboy days on the neighborhood block when I packed a pearl-handled cap pistol on each hip. I feel a little thrill. I squint at the picture of the local guy—it is small and in black and white, kind of like my old bear photos. He has on a camouflage shirt and his face is all smeary, the way bow hunters look, or paramilitaries on maneuvers. He is not smiling and looks like he has mud in his hair.

"Scary-looking guy," I remark.

"Oh, yes. He comes in here pretty often," said the clerk. And then he produces a much larger version of the photo, in color. Whoa! The mud in the guy's hair turns out to be blood and the smeary business on his face is more of the same plus assorted gashes. No wonder he is not smiling—but why is he even standing up, and why is someone taking his picture?

I read the brief accompanying horror story about how his hunting partner fortunately had a little can of pepper spray along, plus was a surgeon, and how the man's life was saved but they both would have been in deep trouble if the bear had come back because they had used up their insufficient supply of pepper. Now the survivor, scarred but grateful to be alive, is selling bigger cans of pepper spray. I don't hesitate—I fork over my \$35 for the nine ounce can, said to be good for seven one-second bursts of "two million Scoville Heat Unit (SHU) rated Oleoresin Capsicum." The clerk



says it will reach to the hat rack at the end of the store—about 25 feet.

I go back out to the car and we drive to Yellowstone, receive more bear literature at the park entrance gate, and make our camp in the beautiful Lamar Valley. We read the directions on the bear spray again, squint at our copy of the guy's photo, on the packaging of our spray can, and we test fire the thing. A little orange cloud billows out—it works, but we don't want to use it up. We sniff at the residue on the nozzle and it is so potent it doesn't smell like red pepper, it feels like toxic gas. Gulp. Our enemy must be mighty indeed to warrant such defense.

That night, for the first time in my life, I go to bed armed. I lie in the tent with my sleeping family around me, and just above my pillow I feel for my flashlight and my spray-gun. I lie awake, wondering if I could react out of a deep sleep, if I could figure out what was happening and which direction to point the thing or if I would just wind up gassing the family, maybe seasoning us for the bear. I think about bears, how much I'd love to see one, or more, from a distance. They say the Indians in these parts felt grizzly bears to be so powerful and sacred that they did not speak their name but referred to them instead as "grandfather" or "badger." I think how these great creatures have been driven to extinction in ninety eight percent of their former range in the of the lower forty eight states and what a rare privilege it is to lie awake in my sleeping bag, humbled by fear and respect for the "badger."

Sometime during the night I wake up with my left eyelid on fire. I realize I have been fingering the pepper spray, nervously reassuring myself in my sleep that I know where to reach for it, and it has stung me a little when I rubbed my face. This burning eyelid is somehow part of my relationship with the great bears, so I savor it. Later, when we are camping in the back country with our kids, we carefully hang our food, dishes, even the clothes we wore when eating, far from our tent and ten feet above the ground. This is our relationship, too: careful, conscious, respectful, fearful, and thrilled.

— Bonner J. McAllester

## HOLY LEISURE

Coming off a two week vacation, I have a renewed appreciation for leisure. I agree with Joan Chittister, who states in her book, Wisdom Distilled from the Daily: Living the Rule of St. Benedict Today, that leisure "...is not laziness and it is not selfishness. It has something to do with the depth and breadth, length and quality of life."

In our culture we are trained to be doers and makers, not dreamers and seers. If we are not doing something, a vague feeling of guilt begins to surface. Even in play or leisure, we feel that there have to be purposes, goals, and results. There is little time for reflection on what we are doing with our lives.

So I make an appeal for "holy leisure", a leisure that makes us more human. By engaging our heart and broadening our vision, we can experience deepening insight and a stretching of the soul. Holy leisure means stepping back and taking the time to ask what's going on in our lives.

Holy leisure involves contemplation. This does not mean withdrawal from the human race. Rather, it is the personal pursuit of meaning. It involves asking the questions that define who we are. Who will care and who will profit, who will be touched or affected by what I am doing with my life?

So leisure has to do with meaning and contemplation. For the most part, we live over-stimulated and under-energized lives.

Leisure allows for the contemplation that will bring meaning and energy to our lives. We have to make room within ourselves for holy reading, gentle awareness, and deep reflection. As Chittister clarifies in her book, "Contemplation is not emptiness that ends in fullness. Contemplation is fullness that ends in emptiness." Leisure has to do with that kind of emptiness.

Keith Snow, Pastor  
Monterey United Church of Christ

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## WILDLIFE SURVEY

**The Roadsides.** The striking thing now is the gold of many different species of goldenrod in the fields, often by the acre, and the appearance of fall color here and there on the leaves of an occasional branch, or perhaps a whole tree, usually sugar maples. The flaming color gives a special premonitory thrill (or chill!) against the still prevailing sea of green.

Most of the flowers reported last month are still with us, though the pipsissewa, the wild clematis and cucumber, the cardinal flower, and the sweet clover are past. What's new is the vivid blue of bottled gentians, and the pale blue of great lobelia. Also, sweetpepper, New England aster, pokeweed, goatsbeard, narrow-leaved burdock (August 18); ground cornell, wintergreen, panicled hawkweed (September 4); witch hazel (September 14).

**Fall visitor.** An osprey, or often a pair of them, visits Lake Garfield in the fall. This year only one has been spotted so far, by Dale Duryea on Labor Day, and by David McAllester on September 13. This largest, whitest, and most vocal of the hawks makes a great "keeking" sound when disturbed, and is the only hawk to plunge into the water, feet first, after fish. David also saw a kingfisher on September 7, who sped from perch to perch with his rattling cry, dived into the lake, and came up with a minnow in his beak.

**Involuntary gift from a heron.** Also on September. 7, David saw a great blue heron fly up from the east end of the lake. Lying on the trail there, neatly speared through the back of the head, was a fifteen inch trout. On the assumption that the heron wouldn't be back, the trout was gratefully carried off and became the main course of that day's lunch.

Speaking of herons, one was seen, September 9, walking quickly through the woods by Hunger Mt. Brook, just south of Hupi Road. It's unusual to see one on the ground in deep woods.

**Porcupines.** Additions to our knowledge of the porcupine diet: Eleanor Kimberley saw a porcupine noisily knocking down and chewing up the stalks in a patch of milkweed, August. 19. On September 9, a half-grown one was so absorbed eating apples on the ground in the Baker/McAllester orchard, that he allowed an observer to get within a couple of yards before he trundled off.

**Bears, elsewhere.** Dale details a report from the game warden in Pittsfield that complaints of bear visits have been averaging four a day.

**Other animals, large and small.** Several moose have been reported on October Mountain. This is enough to call for special caution, Dale says, when driving on foggy nights. These huge animals can loom up, all too suddenly, out of the shadows.

A bobcat was seen recently on the Corashire Rd. near the Fenn farm. A couple of red foxes are hunting in

the Duryea meadow, after a long absence. Grey squirrels and the rarer red squirrels are busy in the woods as the acorns come rattling down.

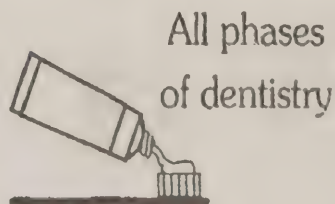
**Late summer insects.** The cool early mornings have been almost insect-free, but when the day warms up large companies of gnats rise to the hunt in damp places. This is a time of year when dozens of dragon-flies can be seen hawking the gnats over meadows and bodies of water. Only the hummingbirds can match the incredible maneuvers of these agile fliers. A dozen cedar waxwings are on the alert for the late gnat harvest at the east end of Lake Garfield. They gather in the top branches of a dead tree in the Fargo Swamp, and make fluttering sorties over the water. A few catbirds are busy in a quieter way in the lower shrubbery of the swamp.

**Mushrooms.** This is the great season of fungal proliferation. They are everywhere, in all colors from pale puffs in the meadows, to purple, orange, red, and yellow in all shapes in the moist woods. I hope we can find someone to give us the expert reports we've enjoyed over the years from Alice Somers.

**First flight of geese.** Beryl McAllester saw and heard a skein of Canada geese headed south, September 15, across the east end of Monterey. There were thirty or forty in a V formation, evoking that poignant feeling for the summer passing and changes to come.

David P. McAllester

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## CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

The *Monterey News* is sponsoring the **Susan McAllester Memorial Photo Contest**, with funds from a grant from the Monterey Cultural Council. The contest is named in honor of long-time *Monterey News* photographer Susan McAllester, who passed away on August 31, 1994.

McAllester's images reflected the quiet beauty that she saw in rural, small-town life, and we will be exhibiting some of them in these pages, in the months to come. Susan was always willing to discuss photography, and field questions regarding the home dark-room. It is fitting that this contest, designed to both foster and showcase the talents of local amateur photographers, be named in her honor.

The contest is open to amateur photographers of any age, and consists of three categories; nature (which includes scenics and wildlife), architecture, and portraiture. Images submitted must be taken in Monterey, and must be accompanied by the photographers name, address, and phone number, along with pertinent caption information for the photo. All winning images will be published in the *Monterey News*. The winner of first prize will receive fifty dollars, second prize is thirty dollars, and third prize is twenty dollars. Winners of honorable mention will receive free film. Submissions with sufficient address information will be returned after January 30, 1998. Questions? Please contact Maggie Leonard at 528-1170.

— Maggie Leonard



©SUSAN MCALLESTER

*Sky-high corn, Banner and Joe's garden*

## MIELKE COMPETES IN NATIONAL RACE

Local motocross racer Mike Mielke loaded his dirt bike onto his pick up truck, and drove twenty seven hours to Stillwater, Oklahoma, to compete in the Suzuki RM Cup Challenge, on September 6 and 7. This is a national race that is sponsored by Suzuki America. The competition draws riders from eight districts across the United States, with the top seven riders in each district eligible to try and qualify for the event.

On Saturday, September 6, fifty six riders vied for a slot in Sunday's big race. Out of fifty six competitors, thirty eight qualified for the Suzuki RM Cup Challenge. Mielke qualified to race the main event in both the 125 novice class, and the 250 novice class. On Sunday, September 7, Mielke raced both classes and came in nineteenth in the 125 class out of thirty eight racers, and fifteenth in the 250 class, also out of thirty eight racers. Due to his wins this season, Mielke has advanced from the novice class and will now be racing in the amateur class.

Mielke said that he had a lot of support from people around town. While there are too many folks to recognize here, Mike would like to thank all who helped sponsor him in the race.

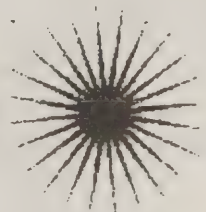
— Maggie Leonard

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## REP RAP

After years—decades—of pushing for General Electric's full disclosure of PCB contamination, the truth is coming out. Through a tip called in to the Environmental Task Force's hot-line, 1-888-VIOLATE, PCB's have been discovered on sites far from the GE facility.

That one lead exposed a GE program that offered fill to property owners in the 1940's and 1950's. Much of the fill provided could contain fuller's earth, a kitty litter-like substance used to absorb PCB-laden oil. GE is still trying to bury their heads in the sand, but true grassroots motivation has lead to the further

discovery of documents, and news stories, proving GE's corporate policy of outright deceit.

The matter is unfolding so quickly that major discoveries are a daily occurrence. Now, another park and dozens of homes are found to be highly contaminated, many posing imminent danger. To add insult to injury, it has been shown that GE knew of potential residential contamination since 1992, perhaps even earlier. In fact, I uncovered a 1989 *Berkshire Eagle* article written by Stephen Moore, then environmental reporter and now GE spokesperson. In 1989, Moore reported the residential contamination. Now he denies GE's prior knowledge, claiming that he never

believed his own story in the first place.

Even other public officials who have long stood by GE's side are realizing we have been telling them the truth. I first wrote to the Environmental Protection Agency in 1990, pushing for further research into potential residential contamination. I have been pushing ever since. Now, the EPA has proposed placing GE and the Housatonic River on the Superfund list. This will finally give us the upper hand in this battle.

Environmental authorities have been negotiating with GE since 1979 with little results. Superfund designation will give us the power to make GE clean up the mess it has left behind. This is a very gratifying turn of events for those who have been living and working on contaminated sites, and for those of us who have been championing this issue for so long. Finally, after decades of fighting for our environment and the greatest natural resource in Berkshire County, the Housatonic River, we are taking control of the situation. GE had its chance to negotiate, now it is time to clean it up.

I will continue to pursue this matter with fervent interest. If you would like to discuss this further or have any comments or questions, please feel free to call my full-time district office at (413) 243-0289.

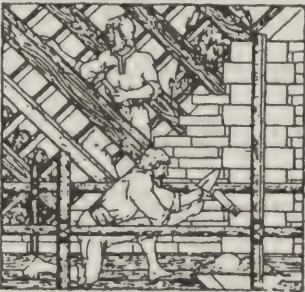
—Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins



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## SENATOR SAYS

As I have met with constituents and pursued my policy priorities for the district this month, several concerns seem to fall into two principal categories: economic development and cultural affairs.

**Economic Development: Telecommunications.** I and other members of the Berkshire delegation have requested that the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) undertake a study of the telecommunications system we need to ensure a competitive future for the economy of western Massachusetts. Many high-tech companies are attracted to the quality of life western Massachusetts can offer to their work force. However, the cost of doing business also must be competitive if we are to lure the good jobs and clean industry associated with telecommunications and Internet businesses.

I have been meeting with planners, business people and constituents to learn more about areas where the state can act to make this region more competitive in the changing world of telecommunications technology. Some short and long-term concerns include addressing the rates charged by telephone companies, and investment in fiber optic phone lines or other infrastructure which transmits data. These highly technical subjects require input from experts in the field, and we must take a broad regional view if solutions are to be effective. I encourage business leaders and local officials to work closely with BRPC, so that the resulting plan will address the diverse interests and concerns which come into play as we retool our economy for the twenty first century.

**Cultural Affairs.** The connection between "The Arts" and economic development might not be evident at first glance, but there is a strong case to be made for this link in western Massachusetts. The exciting developments in store at the Mass MoCA complex in North Adams are a case in point. Although restoration

of the former Sprague industrial site was originally conceived as a sculpture museum, the scope of the project has been redirected to embrace computer resources for the community, offices for companies which produce special effects for feature films, and studios for music and video, as well as for artists in the traditional fine arts. I am pleased to have been successful in the Senate in advocating for state investments in two key cultural resources in this area. In the recent Convention Center Bond Bill, I convinced my Senate colleagues to include an appropriation of \$2.5 million to support the continued development of the National Music Foundation in Lenox. This institution will bring business to the region as visitors are attracted to concerts, displays and performances, and as artists make use of recording studios and other facilities the National Music Foundation will provide. Especially near and dear to my heart is the restoration of the Colonial Theater in downtown Pittsfield, for which the state Senate also agreed to set aside \$2.5 million at my request. Efforts to restore the Colonial are not just nostalgic. A performing arts facility such as the Colonial has the potential to

become an "anchor" tenant which will make downtown Pittsfield a destination for visitors from throughout the region. Groups planning conferences and meetings look for amenities such as a vibrant night life when booking locations for their gatherings. Thus the Colonial is a very complementary neighbor for the proposed conference facility which regional business leaders and officials have proposed for Pittsfield's downtown. Although I have emphasized the value of investing in the arts as a part of our economic future, I do not want to underestimate the value to our own way of life. Many of you are members of community choral or orchestral groups which need a space like the Colonial where you can perform. The arts are also a part of raising educated and open-minded children who will understand and appreciate our cultural traditions. So, at the same time we work to ensure that the range of cultural facilities in the Berkshires will continue to draw tourist dollars to our area, we should also celebrate the fact that we are doing something worthwhile for ourselves. Western Massachusetts deserves no less.

— Senator Andrea F. Nuciforo, Jr.

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## CONTRIBUTORS

Ursula Buchanan  
Joel & Kathy Curtis  
Jo Ann Elam  
Mildred Galen  
Arnold & Janet Garber  
Louise Henry  
David & Beryl McAllester  
William & Joyce Pasco  
Stanley & Edith Ross  
Gerry Shapiro  
Arthur & Phebe Wing

## ROLAND BARNETT

Roland Barnett, 78, of 70 Tyingham Road, died August 26, 1997. He was a weekend and summer resident from 1964 to 1979, at which time he retired and made Monterey his permanent home. He served during World War II in the Army Air Corps. He is survived by his wife, Lillie, whom he married on June 7, 1941 and his son, Lion Gary, of San Francisco.

## FRED LANCOME

Fred Lancome, 86, of Main Road, died Saturday, August 23, at Fairview Hospital in Great Barrington, after suffering a stroke at home.

Mr. Lancome was a well known figure in Monterey. Always keenly interested in politics, Lancome was Monterey's delegate to state Democratic conventions. He often wrote erudite letters to the editor of the *Berkshire Eagle*, and was always a familiar face at Monterey's town meeting. Lancome was also a library trustee, and the first president of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District's PTA. Additionally, he was a member of the area chapter of the American Association of the United Nations, and served on the Berkshire County Advisory Committee for the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination.

Fred Lancome was born in Brussels, Belgium, on February 18, 1911. He attended schools in France and studied sculpture at the Academie des Beaux Arts in Paris. While in Paris he opened Fred, a salon where he created hats for theatrical actors.

In 1940 Mr. Lancome came to the United States on the last ship that left France before the ports were closed by the Nazis. He opened a hat salon in New York City, where his customers included Helena Rubenstein, the perfume magnate.

After the war, Lancome, and his wife Lucie, moved to Monterey and opened the Sun-Inside Inn, which they operated until their retirement in 1985.

As a sculptor, Lancome had one-man shows at the Berkshire Museum, and at museums in Albany and Philadelphia, and at the Selected Artists Gallery in New York City. One of his pieces was selected for the first international exhibit at the prestigious Salon d'Automne in Paris.

He leaves his wife, Lucie Lancome of Monterey, a son, Claude Lancome of Marblehead, Massachusetts, and a granddaughter and two great-granddaughters.



©DEBORAH MIELKE

*The Three Sisters Garden at New Marlborough Central School, based on the Native American tradition of beans, corn, and squash.*

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### PERSONAL NOTES

Word has come from Kathy and Joseph Wasiuk of the engagement of their daughter, Virginia, to Andrew James Lay of St. Louis, Missouri. Ginny now lives in Missouri where she is Assistant Circuit Attorney for the city of St. Louis, and her fiancé is an Assistant Attorney General for the state of Missouri. Since she spent some part of every summer on Lake Garfield, Monterey still feels like home. Best wishes to both of you for your future together!

Happy Birthday on October 1 to Rita Gottlieb, to Jim Gauthier and Mabel Sheridan on October 2, to Giuliana Raab on October 4, to Oriana Raab on October 6, to Joseph Makuc and Tom Thom on October 9, to Karen Shreefer on October 11, to Dave Quisenberry on October 12, to Taylor Amstead and Jeri Palmer on October 17, to Jill Amstead on October 19, to Ian Rodgers on October 22, to Claire Mielke on October 24, to Elizabeth Orenstein on October 26, and to Debbie Mielke on October 27. Happy Anniversary on October 5 to Dick and Barbara Tryon.

We enjoy hearing your news and passing on birthday and anniversary greetings. If you have any you would like to share, please drop me a line at P.O. Box 351, Monterey, MA 01245, or give me a call at 528-6691, if possible before the twelfth of each month. Thank you so much.

— Ann Higgins

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## SUSAN MCALLESTER MEMORIAL PHOTO CONTEST

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Second Prize \$30  
Third Prize \$20  
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The contest is open to all amateur photographers. All photos must be taken in  
Monterey. Categories are: architecture, action, nature and portraits.

Photographs may be sent to P.O. Box 9, Monterey, Massachusetts, 01245  
Deadline for submissions is January 30, 1998.



## CALENDAR

**Sundays**, AA meetings 9 a.m. in  
the Monterey Firehouse, Main Road.

**Wednesday**, October 1, School  
Council meeting, New Marlborough  
Central School, 7 p.m.

**Saturday**, October 11, Tag and  
Bake Sale, Monterey Firehouse pa-  
vilion, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. All proceeds to  
benefit the South County La Leche  
League.

**Sunday**, October 12, Annual  
Royal Hemlock walk, meet at Bid-  
well House, noon.

**Monday**, October 13, Columbus  
Day, Town Hall closed.

**Wednesday**, October 15, dead-  
line for Cultural Council grant appli-  
cations.

**Friday**, October 17, Democratic  
Town Committee, Monterey Fire-  
house, 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday**, October 21, Annual Flu  
Clinic, Town Hall, 9-11 a.m.

**Saturday**, October 25, Square  
and Contradancing at the Sheffield  
Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass.  
Music by Mountain Laurel, calling  
by Joe Baker. All dances are taught  
and beginners and children are wel-  
come. Refreshments served at inter-  
mission. Adults \$5, children \$2. In-  
formation: (413) 528-9385 or (518)  
329-7578.

*Photo at right. Fast enough to get her  
picture, but not her name. Female  
racer in the Sesquicentennial Knox  
Trail Run.*





## CET NEWS

**Workshop.** The Center for Ecological Technology (CET) and Holiday Farm are coordinating a teacher's workshop scheduled for Saturday, October 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Holiday Farm on Route 9 in Dalton. The workshop will cover aspects of gardening, agriculture, food, and the farm as a community resource. A tour of Holiday Farm and a roundtable discussion on the challenges of agricultural education will be part of the program.

Presenters will include Judy MacPherson from Williams Elementary on her successes with worm composting in the classroom, and John Bye, Adjunct Faculty of Berkshire Community College, on the history, biology, and ecology of pumpkins. A primary goal is to share activities, techniques, and concepts that teachers can use in their classrooms. The event is free and open to teachers and the general public. Participants will receive educational resources and handouts of activities as well as professional development points.

This event is made possible through funding from Massachusetts Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc., the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and AmeriCorps VISTA. CET is a non-profit energy and resource conservation and solid waste management organization with offices in Pittsfield and Northampton. To register or receive more information about the event, contact Sarah Spaulding at CET at (413) 445-4556.

**Reuse directory.** CET has recently produced the *Reuse Directory for Western Massachusetts*, to promote reuse by making it easier for residents of rural western Massachusetts to buy, sell, consign, rent, or donate used goods. Reusing items conserves natural resources and keeps waste from being buried in landfills or burned in combustion facilities.

With listings of over 300 businesses and organizations, the *Directory* is a comprehensive easy-to-use guide to the



*Skateboarder Cody Rosenthal works out on a mini-ramp.*

region's reuse opportunities. The Directory is free to residents of western Massachusetts towns that have a population less than 10,000. If interested in receiving a copy of *Reuse Directory for Western Massachusetts*, please call Sherill Baldwin at CET at (413) 445-4556. Residents of Southern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District towns may call Larry Lampman at 528-5922. Also, local libraries have each received a copy for their reference desks.

The *Directory* was made possible through funding from USDA Rural Development and assistance from AmeriCorps VISTA, and members from the National Recycling Coalition's Recycling to Build Community Program. Printing was donated by NYNEX Corporation. The Center for Ecological Technology (CET) is a non-profit energy and resource conservation and solid waste management organization with offices in Pittsfield and North Hampton.





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Our editorial address is *Monterey News*, P.O. Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite letters, articles, drawings, and photographs from readers. Please send submissions (on Macintosh disk if possible) by the fifteenth of the month before publication, addressed to the attention of the Editor. Send any change of address, or initial request to receive the

News by mail (free!) to Barbara Tryon, Business Manager. We will typeset a text-only ad for your Monterey-based business, service, or event, or advertisers may submit an ad with graphics on a Macintosh formatted disk. Address your request for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone her in Monterey at 413-528-1170.

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Contributions from local artists this month: Bonner McAllester, p.14 & p.21

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